

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 060329
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-05 CA-01 INSE-00 L-03 DODE-00
/020 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JWTWINAM
APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:JWTWINAM
SCA/VO - MR. SHEPHERD
-----027991 091112Z /20
R 090137Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SA, US

SUBJECT: POLITICAL ASYLUM: ABD AL-HAMID ABD AL-WAHAB AL-
RAMADAN

REF: STATE 179450 (77)

1. SEVERAL WEEKS AGO NEA DISCUSSED STATUS OF RAMADAN WITH
AMBASSADOR ALIREZA. HIS CASE IS UP FOR ROUTINE YEARLY
REVIEW IN MARCH BY INS TO DETERMINE IF CIRCUMSTANCES
ALLOWING HIS CONDITIONAL ENTRY HAVE CHANGED. OUR UNDER-
STANDING IS THAT INS WOULD ONLY RECONSIDER EARLIER
DECISION TO GRANT HIM CONDITIONAL ENTRY IF DEPARTMENT
WERE TO SO REQUEST IN WRITING ON THE BASIS THAT OUR UNDER-
STANDING THAT PROTECTION, OR LACK THEREOF, AVAILABLE TO
HIM IN SAUDI ARABIA UNDER ISLAMIC LAW HAD CHANGED.

2. IN THE MEANTIME DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN TOLD AND ARP HAS
JUST CONVEYED TO SAUDI EMBASSY THAT A FRIEND OF RAMADAN'S
HAS TOLD U.S. NAVY THAT RAMADAN IS MARRIED TO AN AMERICAN
CITIZEN. WE HAVE INFORMALLY ADVISED THE EMBASSY THAT IF
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THIS IS INDEED TRUE, PAST EXPERIENCE SUGGESTS THERE IS
VIRTUALLY NO CHANCE OF HIS BEING DEPORTED. WE HAVE,
THEREFORE, SUGGESTED THAT BEST COURSE OF ACTION WOULD BE
FOR SAUDI EMBASSY TO ATTEMPT TO CONTACT HIM, ASCERTAIN HIS
MARITAL STATUS, AND ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE HIM TO RETURN
TO SAUDI ARABIA VOLUNTARILY. VANCE

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